



## City of Cincinnati

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### **City Hires New Leader for Environmental Issues**

City Manager Milton Dohoney has announced that Lawrence Falkin has been hired as the new Director of the Office of Environmental Quality. He will assume his responsibilities on July 1. The Office of Environmental Quality was established within the City Manager's Office in the 2007/2008 budget.

Falkin holds a BA from State University of New York, and JD with Certificate in Environmental Law From Pace University. He has achieved the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager Master Level status. Falkin was formerly the Deputy Director for Natural Resources for Jackson County Parks and Recreation in Kansas City, Missouri; served as the Assistant Director for the City of Kansas City Department of Environmental Management; and served three years as the Section Chief for the United States Environmental Protection Agency plus three additional years as their Assistant Regional Counsel.

One of his first assignments will be overseeing the City's Energy Management Team tasked with studying the energy used by the City and making recommendations on more efficient means of using it. The goal of the Energy Management Team is to develop a plan that focuses on reducing utility and fuel usage, promoting conservation, and reducing energy costs.

Public Services, the Parks Commission, and the Greater Cincinnati Water Works have already implemented some energy saving steps that will be discussed at the first Energy Team meeting on June 4.

The team will also look at cities similar to Cincinnati and compare their energy saving techniques. Lexington showed promise with their ideas to save some money, which included putting computers to sleep when not in use, power savers on vending machines, and the introduction of LED lights in traffic lights, which is already underway in Cincinnati.

The board will also team up with the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Energy Efficiency to look at possible resources/technical assistance they can provide.

The team is made up of 12 city staff members, including the City Manager's Office, Buildings & Inspections, Parks, and Water Works.

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